AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An authentication method for network security, comprising the following steps:

step 1: a Media Gateway Controller (MGC) configuring a Media Gateway (MG) with an authentication key, and setting a security data package on a network protocol, by a Media Gateway Controller (MGC);

step 2: the MGC, during the <u>a</u> security authentication, sending, by the MGC, security authentication request data to the MG using the data package;

receiving by the MGC a calculation result obtained by the MG-performing an encryption calculation on the request data using the authentication key by the MG, and responding to MGC with the encrypted request data; and

step 3: the MGC determining by the MGC whether the MG being authenticated is legal according to the calculation authentication result.

- 2. (Original) The authentication method for network security according to claim 1, wherein said network protocol is Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).
- 3. (Original) The authentication method for network security according to claim 1, wherein said network protocol is H248 protocol.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The authentication method for network security according to claim 1, wherein said data package comprises a security authentication request signal and a security authentication completion event, said security authentication request signal comprising a security authentication parameter, and said security authentication completion event comprising a security authentication result parameter.

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5. (Currently Amended) The authentication method for network security according

to claim 4, wherein said step 2the step of sending security authentication request data

from the MGC to the MG using the data package further comprises:

step 21: the MGC sending the security authentication request signal in the data

package to the MG;

step 22: the MG, after receiving the security authentication parameter in the security

authentication request signal, performing encryption calculation on said parameter using

the authentication key, and reporting the encryption calculated result to the MGC through

the security authentication result parameter in the security authentication completion

event in the data package.

6. (New) The authentication method for network security according to claim 5,

wherein the receiving step comprises:

receiving the calculated result through the security authentication result parameter in

the security authentication completion event in the data package, wherein the calculation

result is obtained by performing an encryption calculation on the security authentication

parameter using the authentication key by the MG.

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